and source reduction through minor environmental engineering, (iii) **Supportive Interventions** including Behaviour Change Communication, Public Private Partnership and Inter-sectoral convergence, Human Resource Development through capacity building, operational research including studies on drug resistance and insecticide susceptibility, monitoring and evaluation through periodic reviews/field visits and web based Management Information System.

Government of India has introduced rapid diagnostic tests for early detection and complete treatment of *Plasmodium falciparum* malaria. In areas resistant to conventional anti-malaria drug Chloroquine, Government of India has introduced Artesunate+Sulphadoxinepyremethamine combination therapy. The supervision and monitoring of the programme has been intensified by involving National Institute of Malaria Research and other Indian Council of Medical Research Institutions.

Government of India is providing additional support to high *Plasmodium falciparum* malaria endemic States including North-Eastern States, Orissa, West Bengal and Jharkhand since July, 2005, under Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) supported Intensified Malaria Control Project. The Government of India is also providing additional support to other high malaria endemic States under World Bank assistance (Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Orissa and Jharkhand).

Declining sex ratio

†*435. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY:
SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the present sex ratio in the country and the position of the country in the world in this regard;

(b) whether it is a fact that there has been sharp decline in sex ratio in 80 per cent districts of the country this year;

(c) the States having sex ratio less than national level alongwith the sex ratio in these States;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) the main reasons for the decline in sex ratio and the efforts being made by Government to check the same;

(e) whether the existing law has been successful in its objective of prevention of abortion after sex determination test; and

(f) if not, whether any amendment is being made in this law accordingly?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) Sex ratio in India has declined over the century from 972 in 1901 to 927 in 1991. The sex ratio has since gone up to 933 in 2001. In contrast, the child sex ratio for the age group of 0-6 years in 2001 is 927 girls per thousand boys against 945 recorded in 1991 Census. As far as world wide sex ratio is concerned, it is 1.01 male (s)/females as in 2006.

(b) There is a decline in sex ratio in 11 States/UTs as reported in 1991 Census to 2001 Census.

(c) The States having sex ratio less than national level are Jammu and Kashmir (892), Punjab (876), UT of Chandigarh (777), Haryana (861), Delhi (821), Rajasthan (921), Uttar Pradesh (898), Bihar (919), Sikkim (875), Arunachal Pradesh (893), Nagaland (900), Madhya Pradesh (919), Gujarat (920), UT of Daman and Diu (710), UT of Dadra and Nagar Haveli (812), Maharashtra (922), and UT of Andaman and Nicobar Islands (846), as per 2001 Census. State/UT-wise sex ratio and child sex ratio (0-6 years) during 1991 and 2001 is given in Statement (*see* below).

(d) Some of the reasons commonly put forward to explain the consistently low levels of sex ratio are son preference, neglect of the girl child resulting in higher mortality at younger age, female infanticide, female foeticide, higher maternal mortality and male bias in emuneration of population. Easy availability of the sex determination tests and abortion services may also be facilitating the process which may be further stimulated by pre-conception sex selection facilities. The Government has taken a number of initiatives to implement the Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Technique Act (PC&PNDT) and to spread awareness on the issue through Information, Communication and Education (IEC). They include amendment of PC&PNDT Act in 2003 to make it more comprehensive, more frequent visits of National Inspection and Monitoring Committee (NIMC), setting up of National Support and Monitoring Cell (NSMC), sensitization through Members of Parliament, publication of

handbook on the Act, Annual Report on the Act, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ), involvement of District Magistrate, launching of "Save the Girl Child" campaign etc.

(e) and (f) As on 2.4.2007, there are 420 number ongoing court/police cases filed in the country, out of which 59 cases have been filed for communication of sex of fetus. A Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary (H&FW), to examine various amendments/revisions to Act to make its implementation more effective and various issues related to it, has been constituted.

Statement

State/UT- wise Sex ratio and Child Sex Ratio (0-6 years) *during* 1991 and 2001

Annex'

India and State/Union Territory*	Sex ratio		Child Sex Ratio	
	1991	2001	1991	2001
1	2	3	4	5
INDIA	927	933	945	927
Jammu & Kashmir	869	892	NA	941
Himachal Pradesh	976	968	951	896
Punjab	882	876	875	789
Chandigarh*	790	777	899	845
Uttaranchal	936	962	948	908
Haryana	865	861	879	819
Delhi*	827	821	915	868
Rajasthan	910	921	916	909
Uttar Pradesh	876	898	927	916
Bihar	907	919	953	942
Sikkim	878	875	965	963
Arunachal Pradesh	859	893	982	964

1	2	3	4	5
Nagaland	886	900	993	964
Manipur	958	978	974	957
Mizoram	921	935	969	964
Tripura	945	948	967	966
Meghalaya	955	972	986	973
Assam	923	935	975	965
West Bengal	917	934	967	960
Jharkhand	922	941	979	965
Orissa	971	972	967	953
Chhattisgarh	985	989	974	975
Madhya Pradesh	912	919	941	932
Gujarat	934	920	928	883
Daman & Diu*	969	710	958	926
Dadra & Nagar Heveli*	952	812	1013	979
Maharashtra	934	922	946	913
Andhra Pradesh	972	978	975	961
Karnataka	960	965	960	946
Goa	967	961	964	938
Lakshadweep*	943	948	941	959
Kerala	1,036	1,058	958	960
Tamil Nadu	974	987	948	942
Pondicherry*	979	1,001	963	967
Andaman and Nicobar Islands*	818	846	973	957

SOURCE: Census 1991 & 2001, O/O Registrar General of India

*Union Territory